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JUN 30 1998

CITIZENS COMMITTEE TO COMPLETE THE REFUGE

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June 29, 1998

ENDORSERS

Bay Area Action
Baylands Conservation Committee
California Hawking Club, Inc.
California Waterfowl Association
California Wildlife Federation
Citizens for a Better Environment
Committee for Green Foothills
Defenders of Wildlife
East Bay Green Alliance
Federation of Fly Fishers
Friends of Charleston Slough
Friends of Redwood City
Golden Gate Audubon Society
Green Belt Alliance
League of Women Voters of
the Eden Area
League of Women Voters of
the Fremont Area
League of Women Voters of
Palo Alto
League of Women Voters of
South San Mateo County
Loma Prieta Chapter, Sierra Club
Madrone Audubon Society
Marin Audubon Society
Mission Creek Conservancy
Mono Lake Committee
Mount Diablo Audubon Society
Napa-Solano Audubon Society
Native Plant Society, Santa
Clara Valley Chapter
North Bay Wetlands Coalition
Ohlone Audubon Society
Peninsula Conservation Center
Foundation
Planning and Conservation League
San Francisco Bay Chapter,
Sierra Club
Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society
Save San Francisco Bay Association
Sequoia Audubon Society
South Bay Wetlands Coalition
Sportsmen for Equal Access
Tri-City Ecology Center
Trout Unlimited
United Anglers of California
Urban Creeks Council

AFFILIATES

Citizens for Alameda's Last
Marshlands
Citizens for Open Space in Alvarado
Friends of Foster City
Save Our South Bay Wetlands
Save Wetlands in Mayhews
Wing Wings/Pintail Duck Clubs

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Lester Snow, Executive Director
CalFed Bay Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Snow,

Our interest in the health of South Francisco Bay waters and wetlands is long-standing. We formed a committee in 1968 that led to the establishment of the Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge and then in 1988 we returned to Congress and successfully lobbied for doubling the size of the Refuge to 40,000 acres.

Since then we have worked constantly to ensure the quality of the Bay's waters, and to see all remaining wetlands placed within the Refuge. It is with that background that we feel it appropriate that we comment on the current CalFed alternatives.

First, a new alternative must be developed. The ones submitted are pretty much business as usual because they do not make conservation of water at all levels the mainstay of all future planning. We are particularly interested in emphasis on innovative agricultural water distribution and use methods. Ground water storage may be much more efficient than surface storage.

It is unconscionable with the predicted increase in population for California to look at old fashioned dam and canal solutions when, if the past is a way to predict the future, they will prove futile in the long run. We are especially leery of protestations that new techniques will make a peripheral canal acceptable.

We have the feeling from documents submitted that the South Bay is a step child in the process. We have the most sluggish tides and very great possibility that we are most severely affected by contaminants that enter the Bay upstream.

We urge further consideration of this most important issue facing us.

Yours sincerely,

Florence M. LaRiviere
Chairwoman

A 501(c)(3) Organization under the Peninsula Conservation Center foundation



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453 TENNESSEE LANE, PALO ALTO, CA 94306



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DEPARTMENT OF
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SACRAMENTO

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